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Troubadour

Newsletters

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Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

NOVEMBER 29, 2007

ISSUE 75

STRITCH IN TALKS TO PURCHASE GLENDALE LAND FOR ATHLETIC FIELDS

Stritch is in the process of purchasing a 15.2-acre site on W. Bender Road in Glendale that ultimately would be home to the University's athletic fields.

On Nov. 12, the Glendale Common Council approved the sale of the land, a former landfill in the early 1970's. The University plans to use the parcel, which is just west of Green Bay Road, as athletic fields for its baseball, soccer and softball teams.



Stritch has contracted with the engineering firm Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc. (CDM), to conduct an Environmental Protection Agency assessment of the site to determine the feasibility of developing the land for use, according to Jack Glynn, vice president for Facilities. This process includes soil and water tests needed to evaluate the condition of the site and to ensure that no toxicity is present from the former landfill.

Though both Stritch and the city of Glendale have agreed on terms and Stritch's offer has been accepted, final sale of the land is pending both the results of the EPA test and the review of a preliminary cost assessment Stritch also requested of CDM. This assessment will provide a rough estimate of what it would cost to develop the site, including adding parking and outbuildings for maintenance, storage, concessions and locker rooms, as well as other costs associated with the playing surfaces themselves, such as natural or artificial turf, drainage, lighting and more.

As part of its agreement with Stritch, Glendale plans to absorb the costs of installing infrastructure, such as an extension of Bender Road. The city had planned to do so whether or not the land was purchased, and had considered building a park there several years ago. Nicolet High School also expressed interest in the site, as did the Bavarian Inn.

"We're cautiously optimistic about closing the deal, though it's important for us to consider the development costs and

environmental concerns," Glynn said. "This land can be a great asset to the University and a tangible symbol of our commitment to our students."

That commitment is supported by the University's strategic plan, endorsed by the board of trustees, which pledges to focus on increasing traditional undergraduate enrollment. Statistics show that prospective students are drawn to schools with facilities that cater to their interests, especially athletics.

"Buying this parcel of land is a proactive step taken in advance of our master space planning process, which will help us determine how we can best use our campus spaces to their fullest potential," said President Sister Mary Lea Schneider, OSF. "The end goal is to have our campus be a model of efficiency in the service of our students and our mission."

In addition to helping draw more students to Stritch, new fields would be crucial to the recruitment of student-athletes, who would have a conveniently located home field. The teams currently play games at other facilities around metro Milwaukee, often as far away as Oak Creek or Menomonee Falls.

"We are incredibly excited at the prospect of having fields so close to campus and how that can help our recruiting," said Rich Panella, assistant athletic director. "We'll be equal to or above many of our competitors in terms of facilities, which are very important to athletic prospects. Recruits will know within the first 30 seconds of a visit whether a school is for them, based strictly on what they see."

The University also probably would allow Nicolet High School teams and Glendale residents to use the fields when they are not being used by Stritch. According to Glynn, outside use of the facilities could generate revenue that would help defray the cost of developing the land.

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI HONORED WITH MAJOR GIFT TO ENSURE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

A substantial donation has been made to the University to establish the Sisters of Saint Francis of Assisi Academic Excellence Fund. The gift was made to recognize the legacy of the Sisters, who have served students since Stritch's earliest days and continue to promote distinction at the University.

The gift is being made by Nancy Kendall '87, an alumna and emeritus trustee, and her husband, Leon Kendall, in gratitude for their experience with the Sisters and in honor of the role the Sisters have played in upholding academic excellence at Stritch.

"Whenever I had a problem I went to one of the Sisters, who always helped me out," Nancy Kendall said about her years as a student. "They worked hard and they really tried to help all the students, and I admire them for that."

Earlier this summer, the Kendalls approached the University with an idea to strengthen the core liberal arts values of the institution and honor the women who made it all happen. They challenged the University to create some ideas and to get input from the Sisters. A committee was formed including Sisters Margaret Klotz, Mary Ann Polasek, Justine Peter and Coletta Dunn. They are joined by Mike Brauer, vice president for University Advancement, and Father Jim

Gannon, campus priest and director of Franciscan Mission Effectiveness.

The committee's first initiative was the establishment of a liberal arts-based lecture/discussion series: the Kendall Lecture Series. It will kick off with a talk by theologian and Stritch graduate, Dr. Michael Downey on Dec. 13. He will speak on how the disabled and disenfranchised lead us to a fuller understanding of being human and living a good life. Plans are to invite speakers to Stritch three to four times a year to discuss topics related to academic excellence and the importance of the humanities and liberal arts. Additional projects will be established over the next few years, Brauer said.

As part of the pledge to Stritch, the Kendalls want to challenge all members of the campus community and alumni to also contribute to the fund honoring the Sisters.

"The focus of all of this is on the Sisters," Lee Kendall said. "They are the ones people remember; they are the ones who change lives and who create core values. We can't forget their greatest contribution, which is academic excellence."

In gratitude for the Kendalls leadership and generosity, Stritch has named the University Theater the Nancy Kendall Theater.

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT SESSIONS TO BE HELD AT ALL THREE STRITCH CAMPUSES

Employees who are eligible for insurance benefits may enroll for the first time, add or remove coverage, or make changes to their current enrollment at the information sessions listed below. Changes made during Open Enrollment will be effective on January 1, 2008.

Milwaukee Campus

Friday, Nov. 30

10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Schroeder Auditorium

Wednesday, Dec. 5

10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Schroeder Auditorium

Minnesota Campus

Monday, Dec. 3

Room TBD – 10 a.m.

Madison Campus

Tuesday, Dec. 4

Room TBD – 2 p.m.

Insurance company representatives will be available to discuss plan benefits, services, and changes for 2008 for health and vision, dental, life, accident, cancer and short-



term disability insurance, as well as flex spending accounts for healthcare and dependent care, which require a new enrollment form for the 2008 plan year available from Human Resources.

Please note that current employees and newly enrolled employees in the WAICU Health Insurance program have an option for an enhanced benefit level which affects employee co-insurance and out of pocket costs. In order to receive this enhanced benefit level, employees must complete family doctor election and health needs assessment forms for all individuals covered under the health plan. These forms will be available at the open enrollment information sessions.

All eligible employees are encouraged to attend these informational sessions, which will last approximately one hour. This is particularly important if employees plan to make changes, enroll for the first time or change to the enhanced benefit option for the health insurance.

Please direct questions to Sabrina Hooks in Human Resources at Ext. 4212 or srhooks@stritch.edu.

New Stritch Staff



DARNELL BRADLEY

Assistant Professor
Doctoral Studies



ERIN BRAUER

Graduate Admissions Counselor
Admissions



MATT DAMON

Weekend Event Coordinator
Facilities



LIZZIE HEIDEN

Service and Hospitality
Coordinator
One-Stop Enrollment Services



JANET MCKNIGHT

Assistant Vice President for
Business and Finance
Business Office



SUZY WOOD

Office Coordinator
Public Relations

THE TROUBADOUR

The Troubadour supports the overall mission, goals and objectives of Cardinal Stritch University, and is meant to serve as a communications tool for the campus community. If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact Public Relations at prdept@stritch.edu.

For complete information on University public relations, media relations and publications, please see the PR brochure, which is available in My Stritch by clicking on "Public Relations Information" in the "Other Employee Info Pages" folder under the "Employee Info" tab.

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